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The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845

January 29, 1920, Temperature 60.

Rainfall 0.00 inch.

Humidity 74.

January 29, 191, Temperature 68.

No. 17,861.

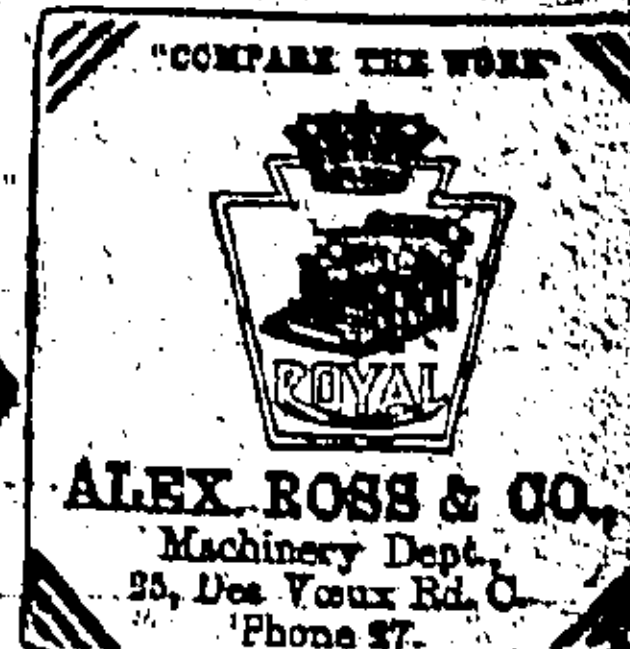
四拜禮

號九廿月正年十二百九千一英

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1920.

日九初月二十未己次歲年八國民華中

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TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

SHIPBUILDING STATISTICS.

LONDON, January 27.
Lloyd's register puts the total output of the world's merchant ship-building in 1919 at 7,144,000 tons, an increase of 1,697,000 as compared with 1918 and of 3,811,000, as compared with 1913 which was the pre-war record year. The figures for the war period show an output in allied and neutral countries in 1914 of 2,852,000; in 1915 of 1,688,000; in 1916 of 2,937,000; and in 1918 of 5,447,000 tons. To the 1919 total of 7,144,000 the United States contributed 4,075,000, the United Kingdom 1,620,000 which is still 311,000, below the 1913 record. The total tonnage launched in British dominions was 359,000, which is an increase of 79,000 over 1918, nearly equalling the combined output of the ten years 1908-1917. The Japanese figures reached the easy record of 611,000, nearly equalling the entire output of Japan for the twenty-two years ending 1913.

HOME POLITICS.

LONDON, Jan. 26.
Extraordinary interest is being displayed over Mr. Asquith's effort to re-enter the House of Commons via Paisley. That "we are in for a big fight," as the ex-premier remarked in a speech at Glasgow today, is evident from a study of the figures of the last election. Since then Liberalism, of which Mr. Asquith is the leading protagonist, has certainly not shown signs at the by-elections of having regained popular favour. Mr. Asquith has a knotty opponent in Mr. Biggar, who is a "black coat labourite." The question is will the ex-premier's personality and distinguished record enable him to retain Paisley for free liberalism. As at East Fife the unionist candidate Mackean was not officially supported by the coalition, unquestionably liberal coalitionists will be undesirous to put a spoke in the wheel of their ex-chief's return, while even many coalition unionists are not unsympathetic toward the idea that he should re-participate in parliament life.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on January 29. Those present were—

His Excellency the Governor (Sir Reginald Edward Stubbs, K.C.M.G.)
The General Officer Commanding the Troops, (Major-General Francis Ventris, C.B.)
The Hon. Colonial Secretary (Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G.)
The Hon. Attorney-General (Mr. J. H. Kemp, C.B.E.)
The Hon. Colonial Treasurer (Mr. R. O. Hutchison.)
The Hon. Director of Public Works (Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G.)
The Hon. Secretary for Chinese Affairs (Mr. E. R. Hallifax, O.B.E.)
The Hon. Captain Superintendent of Police (Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe.)
The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.
The Hon. Mr. J. Johnstone.
The Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak.
The Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell.
The Hon. Mr. E. V. D. Parr.
The Hon. Mr. Ho Fook.
Mr. A. J. M. Fletcher, O.B.E. (Clerk of Councils.)

QUESTIONS BY HON. MR. H. E. POLLOCK.
Question:—What steps is the Government taking for the purpose of carrying out the recommendations of the Coroner's jury with regard to the recent Victoria Jail tragedy, in which two Warders lost their lives?

Answer:—The points raised by the verdict require a considerable amount of investigation and it is impossible to make a statement at present. It will probably be found desirable to appoint a Committee of investigation, on which perhaps the honourable member would be willing to serve.
Question:—Will the Government consider the advisability of establishing a Pasteur Institute in this Colony? What would be approximately the cost of doing so? Will the Government procure the services of a trained and fully qualified man, who has passed through the course at a Pasteur Institute?

Answer:—The matter is receiving consideration. In view of the very small number of cases occurring in the Colony and the existence of Pasteur Institutes within easy reach at Saigon and Shanghai it does not appear that it would be justifiable to incur any large expense, but it seems possible that a special building could be dispensed with in which case no very considerable expense would be involved except for the salary of the officer required for the work. The normal work of the Bacteriological Institute is, however, becoming sufficiently large to justify the appointment of an additional Assistant and it might be possible to obtain an officer trained in antirabic work for such a post. A serious difficulty is the maintenance of a constant supply of the necessary material for inoculation, which might not have to be used more than once in two or three years.

Question:—In view of the bad example set by the exhibition of crimes of violence and other criminal acts on cinema films, will the Government give directions to the Censors to refuse to pass films for exhibition in this Colony which show the execution of any of such crimes or criminal acts?

Answer:—It would be difficult to suppress all films that depicted crimes of violence as mere subsidiary incidents in long serials as to do so would eliminate a very large proportion of the films received here. The censoring authorities have, however, been requested to give careful attention to the matter and in particular to prevent the exhibition of films which depict the execution of crimes of violence.

Question:—What steps is the Government taking to secure the inclusion of Hongkong in the proposed Imperial Commercial Wireless Scheme?

Answer:—The matter was discussed in this Council on the 14th April, 1919, and in a letter dated the 25th April the Unofficial Members were informed that the Officer Administering the Government considered that a high power Wireless Telegraph Station for commercial purposes was urgently required and that he was addressing the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject.

No communication has as yet been received from the Secretary of State.

Question:—What facilities is the Government giving for the encouragement of Aerial Transport to and from this Colony?

Answer:—This Government is in communication with the Imperial Authorities on the subject. It is unable at present to make a statement.

Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock said with regard to question two, was the Government going to take steps and do their best to establish a Pasteur Institute with a trained assistant. The answer did not appear to be clear.

His Excellency said the answer was rather obscure because the position was obscure. He was investigating the number of cases and if it was larger than he thought it was and the expense was small it would no doubt be possible to establish such an institution.

COMMITTEES.
His Excellency said it was the custom at the first meeting to nominate members of the Standing Committees. That would not be necessary for the Finance and Public Works Committees. The only one was the Law Committee, and to this he nominated the Attorney-General, the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak and Hon. Mr. Johnstone.

His Excellency said it would be remembered by hon. members that at the first meeting at which he presided he stated he would give effect to a desire expressed by a hon. member with regard to the Public Works Committee. He found on investigation that in order to carry the suggestion it would be necessary to amend standing Order 11 which provided that the Public Works Committee should consist of the Director of Public Works, and four other members. With regard to the first paragraph of section 4 of the Standing Orders the Finance Committee consisted of the Colonial Secretary and other members of the Council except the Governor or Officer Administering the Government. He thought hon. members would agree with him that such a Committee was really no Committee and it would be better if certain persons whose presence was not absolutely essential were dispensed with. The Finance Committee he had been accustomed to work with consisted of himself as Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer or Controller of Revenue, and all Unofficial members of the Council. On this Council the Colonial Secretary would be Chairman, and the Colonial Treasurer would be necessary. Considering that the greater part of the expense which comes before the Committee related to Public Works he considered the Director of Public Works should be an ex-officio member. He thought the reform would be useful and he asked the Colonial Secretary to move the motion.

(Continued on p. 2)

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

SURRENDER OF THE EX-KAISER.

BRUSSELS, January 28th.
A semi-official statement from the Hague says Holland, replying to the Allied request on January 19th for the extradition of the ex-Kaiser, points out that the obligations imposed upon Germany under Article 228 of the Treaty could not be cited as determining the duty of Holland, who was not a party to the Treaty. Holland, therefore, at present can recognize only the obligation imposed by the constitutional laws of the Netherlands. Neither the Constitution nor tradition permits the Government to accede to the Allied request, as the Constitution and tradition always made the Netherlands an asylum for all who have been victims of international conflicts. Therefore, Holland cannot deny to the ex-Kaiser these advantages. Justice and national honour are opposed to such a procedure. The Dutch people cannot betray the confidence of those who trusted themselves to its free institutions.

LONDON, January 28th.
Reuter understands that the view held in well-informed quarters is that the Netherlands reply must not be regarded as ending the matter. The Supreme Council will consider this reply, which will then form the subject of fresh negotiations between the Netherlands and the Allies.

AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCES.

LONDON, January 28th.
The Times Sydney correspondent says that, upon returning to Australia, the Senior Australian Generals were invited to draft a new scheme of defence covering all possible contingencies. The scheme, which has been completed, will now be considered by the best Australian leaders in France and Mesopotamia, after which General Monash will review his conclusions.

Meanwhile, most Generals in every State are laying stress upon the necessity of Australia further developing and perfecting her land defence which the politicians are disposed to neglect owing to cost.

General Birdwood, speaking at Melbourne, said that it would be the height of folly for Australia to depend upon the League of Nations. She must maintain citizen forces and still further co-operate with New Zealand. As regards the details of the defensive scheme the most common harmony should exist between Australia and India with an exchange of officers as frequently as possible.

PEACE TREATY RESERVATIONS.

WASHINGTON, January 28th.
Eight Republican Senators, claiming to represent others, conferred for some time with Senator Lodge and protested most strongly against the proposed compromise regarding the reservations in the Peace Treaty.

It is reported that they raised a prospect of a great Republican split if a compromise is persisted in.

It is stated that Senator Lodge gave them an assurance that no definite agreement had been made at the inter-party conference, and all proposals were subject to general confirmation.

Mr. Taft almost simultaneously visited the Senate to urge the adoption of a compromise.

LONDON TRAFFIC COMBINE.

LONDON, January 28th.
The Daily Mail states that, in view of the losses on the working for a year, estimated at £1,600,000, the London Traffic Combine, controlling the underground railways, tramways and motor omnibuses, has requested the Ministry of Transport to take over all undertakings on terms similar to those on which the Government control the main railways.

MILITARY ADVENTURES IN RUSSIA.

LONDON, January 28th.
An official statement, issued on behalf of the Premier, says there is no truth in the suggestions with reference to the recent conferences at Paris that Mr. Churchill or the General Staff advocated the despatch of British troops to the Caucasus or any part of Russia.

CENTRAL MASONIC BUILDING.

LONDON, January 28th.
The Duke of Connaught has issued an appeal for £1,000,000 for the erection of a central masonic building in London.

LORD HAIG'S RETIREMENT.

LONDON, January 28th.
The Daily Mail states that Lord Haig retires next week.

SIR IAN HAMILTON.

LONDON, January 28th.
Sir Ian Hamilton has been gazetted on half-pay.

AMATEUR INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL.


LONDON, January 28th.
In the Amateur International Football match, England beat Wales by 9 goals to nil at Merthyr.

INTER-ALLIED NAVAL MISSION.

WILHELMSHAVEN, January 28th.
The Inter-Allied Commission have discovered that the Germans are evading the Treaty conditions whereby ships over a thousand tons under construction shall be handed over to the Allies. They are now building ships of 995 tons. The conference between the British and German naval officers were characterized by the stiffest formality, but every consideration was shown to the feelings of the Germans.

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at Heli's Wharf, Kowloon,

64 Cases Filson's Beer, (etc.)

Terms:—Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT,

Auctioneer.

Hongkong, January 27, 1920.

INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HONGKONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY will be held in the CITY HALL, on FRIDAY, January 30, at 12.30 p.m.

L. A. KNIGHT,

Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, January 28, 1920.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons having Claims against **Mr. P. W. GOLDING, Solicitor,** are requested to send full particulars of same, to **Mr. J. H. GARDINER, Solicitor,** 29, Queen's Road, Central.

Hongkong, January 28, 1920.

NOTICE.

THE ANNUAL OPEN BILLIARD CHAMPIONSHIP of the Colony held under the auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club.

Entries close on 31st January and are to be accompanied by entrance fee of \$2.

The number of points to be played and other arrangements will be decided at a Meeting of the Competitors.

The competition is open to all in the Colony.

R. H. B. MITCHELL,

Hon. Secretary.

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On these occasions the charge for Tea will be \$1.00 per head, and for Table d'Hôte Dinner at \$3.00 per head, exclusive of wines.

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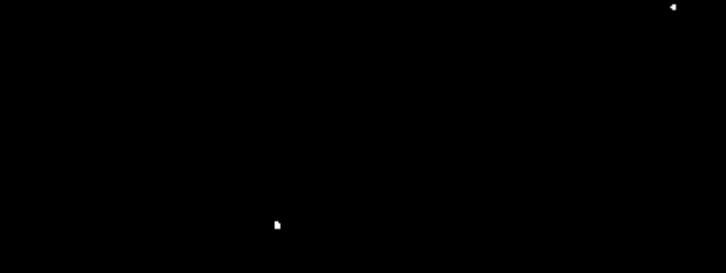
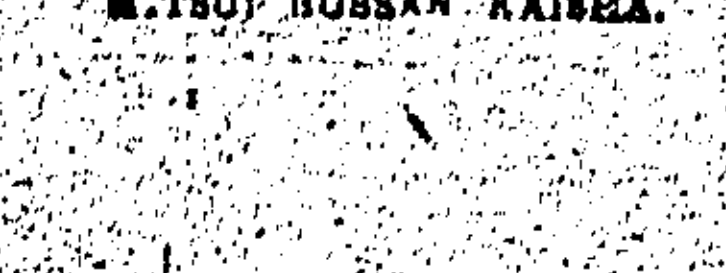
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Hongkong, March 30, 1914.



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ARE WE HAPPIER THAN OUR FATHER?

[By RICHARD WHITEING.]

The posterity of Adam have been busy with an answer to this question from the beginning of time. Their progenitor is the only exception, because he had no starting-point for the comparison. Old Hesiod was quite concerned about it, well-nigh three thousand years ago, but found it as elusive as the will-o'-the-wisp. He could only credit his generation with an age of iron, and grizzle over their want of luck. None of them could trace in the almanacs an Age of Gold, when everything was "just so." Carlyle gave it up when he erased Happiness from the reckoning, and put Blessedness in its place. Yet the happiness they all had in their minds was nothing out of the way, but only a right good time. Later Greece was disposed to start it with Hesiod, in spite of him, but he certainly would have declined the honour, Rome put in a claim with the Fathers of the Republic—plain living, high thinking, a joint for a friend, with a drop of something warm in good red wine to wash it down, all grown in your own fields. Our own optimists thought that it had come at last, with Victoria in her prime. This pleasing concept held the field well-nigh until the outbreak of the World War of to-day. That event has sobered us a little, yet until the last Budget night many were quite ready to believe that it was here with the Peace.

This, of course, changes the venue from backward to forward, and there is some excuse for it. What more can anybody want than what we are going to receive the day after tomorrow? Only think of the improvement! The telephone for talks with continents, instead of with the neighbouring plot on the other side of the garden wall. The style of it! The very concerts and plays brought to your bedside to lull you to sleep for pleasant dreams. Locomotion, the aeroplane, and the Zepps devoted to peaceful uses, and putting the crawling train at sixty miles an hour to shame. "Sir," said Boswell or one of the minor fry in the service of the Oracle of Fleet Street—I forget which—"they are now busy with a scheme of rapid transit by means of post-chaises." And the rate of the acceleration of velocity? queried the other (I quote entirely from memory). "They talk, sir, of twelve miles an hour." "Sir," exclaimed the sage, "it would be impossible: we could not breathe." "There," comments the biographer, "that is just the man he was; he could always lay his finger on the weak point. They had never thought of that."

When Smollett determined to ex-

change Edinburgh for London, on slender means, he took the wagon that trudged the whole way at a walking pace and pulled up at the inns for drunks and more passengers. It was good enough for all concerned. They played cards, quarrelled or chummed at their pleasure, and slept on the straw of the wagon on which they had tramped all day. There were no fustians, of course, when the new-comers hustled in to find a berth for themselves, but nothing came of them; and the malcontents soon joined the majority to the cry of "Full up." One and all had anticipated our Victorians in the delusion that their Here and Now was the Age of Gold at last. What refinements on the poor old past! The sanitation (of the cesspool, though they never gave that a thought) in its stage of finality, and the Black Death of the pestilence that nearly made a desert of Europe never to return again. This note persisted throughout. We know as a prison system: but are we quite sure that it would not triumphantly bear comparison in the essentials of hugger-mugger happiness with the Holloway, the Wormwood Scrubs, or even the Parkhurst of to-day? There is really something to say for the paradox that the distribution of "good time" has been fairly equalised among all the generations of man. If it did not come in one way, it came in another. The net ration of bliss was probably about the same. "The old Newgate," you cry; "how truly dreadful the scores of wretches, most of them on their way to the gallows, herded in the filth of one huge common room; gambling, cursing, fighting, drinking, as long as they had a penny to buy their tipples from the warders at a profit of a hundred per cent." None but the devil pay in rowdy enjoyment of a kind. It was "company," whatever else it was not, and, for the lads of nether Swift's dreadful lines, the prospect of the ovation of the ride to Tyburn Tree!

As clever Tom Clinch, while the rabble was bawling, rode stately through Holborn to die in his calling. The maids and the wives to the balconies ran, and cried "Luckaday! Here's a proper young man!" I quote from memory again.

Compare this with the modern jail, and nothing better than your own thoughts for company, or only the Best of Books for your reading, and that but a constant reproach to your way of life in this world; a constant threat of your fate in the next, and withal the chaplain to drive it home. Silence and isolation in the workshops and the exercise yard. Mark the difference on the occasion referred to in the lines. Mr. Clinch and his spiritual adviser were both too busy for education, in their enjoyment of the scene, and the coffin with the hangman in the back-

ground of the vehicle were no spoilsports. When the latter, in accordance with custom, "fell down on one knee" for pardon and largesse before adjusting the noose, Tom, in the very plenitude of high spirits, "gave him a kick for his fee." The very cleanliness and order of the modern prison are a weariness of the soul, with the utter impossibility of shaking a loose leg in any part of the premises.

Then why do anything at all, you may say? One state of life seems just as good as another when you are used to it. Prison reform is at best but a change of conditions without a change of happiness. A page of Smollett read now sickens the mind, and other parts of the system, at the thought of the brutalities they took as matters of course in his day. Even Nietzsche's nostrum of lethal-chambering at birth of nine-tenths of the population, in order to clear the scene for the development of the nobility and gentry of nature, is but a quack medicine well advertised. Is this rule of thumb, step for step, to go on for ever? No. The coarser worries will drop out of the reckoning, the finer, both of good and bad, will take their place. The eternal need of novelty and freshness of sensation will see to that.

It is a sort of Grimm's law of its subject. The repetition will become a torture of satiety, and to get rid of it will compel a change, in the hope of better luck in the next shuffle of the cards of fate. So one may safely prophesy the imperative change. A time comes, when the sensory organs of all mankind become so fine that a lapse in magnanimity, sweet reasonableness, or fine manners wounds like a blow. All our perhaps excessive culture seems making for that. It will be a gain of a kind, for it will give us a lift from the plains to the heights, where we may hope to see more of the sunlight. The common clay will be at least finer clay, and that will make all the difference between eating from porcelain and eating from ruder ware. It will not affect the balance; I adhere to that. We shall weary of the porcelain in due course, and goodness knows how we shall get our dinners at all, but that consideration belongs to the future, and it will take care of itself. As it is, the more delicate pleasures and pains of our present social system make those able to command them at will the envy of all for whom they are out of reach. It is the subtle difference between good wine or liqueurs served in their appropriate glasses or served out of a "mogg" to say nothing of the apartment in which the whole meal is dished. The bores of Teniers drank and fed in a cellar; their superiors had the better of it by a move upstairs, with all that the change imported in the beauty of the associations. But, with all that, the Golden Age of the Absolute of happiness is as far beyond reach as ever. **Q. D. M.—Manchester Guardian.**

NOTICES.**G. FALCONER & CO., LTD.**

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ALL ELECTRIC TRAMS Pass Entrance, Electric Lifts, Fans and Lighting. A European Bath and Sanitary Fittings, Hot and Cold Water System throughout. Best of Food and Service. Telephone 373. Telegraphic Address:—"VICTORIA."

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Recently renovated and refurnished, electric light and fans throughout and entirely under new management. Cuisine under the personal supervision of the proprietor, Bar and Billiard Rooms. Terms moderate. Special terms to families on application to

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Chocolates 2 cts. per box

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Consultation Free.

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ON SALE BY
A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,
The Hongkong Dispensary,
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Powell Ltd.
TELEPHONE 346

SPECIAL SHOW JUST RECEIVED FROM PARIS SMART and INEXPENSIVE EVENING GOWNS.

Wm. POWELL Ltd.
Des Voeux Road.

DEATH.

HAYNES.—On January 29, 1920, at the King Edward Hotel, Lillian Haynes, aged 18 years. The funeral will pass the Monument at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

The China Mail.

TRADE, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, JAN. 29, 1920.

GOVERNMENT AND LAND.

From time to time the Hongkong Government is accused of sitting on parcels of land, of being too "sticky" when leases are applied for. A certain conservatism in the business of parting with Crown Lands to private hands is to be commended. Had more careful precautions been taken in the past, and the usual requirements as to development been insisted upon, there would be fewer desirable sites held up by rich land gamblers for the extra profit that the urgent needs of a growing community make possible. Where the obligations in regard to building within a certain period are clearly going to be observed, where, in short, the application is in good faith, the Government should be more accommodating than it is at present said to be. It is not easy to get facts frankly by formal application, in spite of previous Government promises to tell the papers everything possible, and we are obliged to ask it questions publicly, so that whether the questions are evaded or not, the public is made aware of the situation that is in some quarters at least believed to exist. For example, is it true that a woman of means, who was dispossessed of her home by the usual procedure of selling it over her head, applied to the Government for a site on which to build her own? Is it true that the Government informed her that these sites (she apparently made alternative applications) were reserved for Government purposes? Is it true that the Government has so far made no use of any of these sites, and that there is no apparent intention on its part to use them? Is it not reasonable that the conditions compelling a lessee to build within a reasonable time should be observed by the Government which is presumed to enforce them? Is it true that the Government is really concerned over the housing problem, now admittedly so acute? Is it not true that by its action in this and similar instances the Government has actually discouraged would-be home builders? Is it not true that every house to be built would

help appreciably to lessen the demand, and to bring down extortionate rents?

These are questions that ought to be answered, and answered frankly and fairly. If they are not, it is not the *China Mail's* fault if the people continue to murmur and say that the Government is not in this matter "playing the game."

For bona fide home building purposes, no matter what class or size or cost of home is planned, it is the duty of the Government to be as "easy" in the matter of allocating the necessary sites as it can possibly be.

ADVERSARIA.

The Allgemeine Anzeigen-Gesellschaft of Berlin writes to the *China Mail* about the "re-opening of commercial relations," and asks for our "very best terms" for advertising space. Some of our local critics who imagine they are the only patriots in the place, especially when we treat academically of subjects they suppose to be "seditious," will be interested to know that our best terms were "nothing doing."

A Shanghai policeman (a war hero) was charged with dishonest behaviour in an opium raid. His defence was that he had drunk taken and didn't realize what he was doing. In discharging him the Judge asked him to hold his head high as an old soldier should. A Hongkong policeman (also a war hero) held his head high without advice, and was charged with refusing duty. He got a sentence of a month's hard labour. It is true he was let out at once, and sent home—we think we know why—but the comparison has its interest and its morals. Several morals.

Noted, at to-day's MAD DOGS. Legislative Council a proposal to have a Pasteur Institute here for the treatment of hydrophobia or rabies. No objection whatever. But, as we said once before, thereby making enemies, the existing restrictions on the importation of dogs should be impartially enforced, and no exceptions granted to privileged persons. We have had many human lives endangered (including innocent children) and some valuable dogs destroyed, since we last referred to this. The *China Mail*, it is worth recalling, was the only paper that was outspoken about this.

Just been reading the VOLUME. Bill introduced an Ordinance to provide for the establishment of a Volunteer Force. We further intimate in the *China Mail* for it is good in parts. The second clause of the third rule in Part One seems to ignore the

promise publicly made on parade, that the members of the new corps should initiate themselves. It says "Any such corps shall be designated by such style as the Governor may order." Designated is another word for intitled and style is another word for "title." By this the Governor is entitled to intitle the volunteers, and they promised the laity they should do their own intitling, or whatever they call it. They are to be voluntary volunteers all right, because it is provided that they can quit after giving 14 days written notice. But man-man. They must return their equipment (bon!) and pay all money due (no bon.) Why is it no bon? Look at paragraph (3) of section 5. The voluntary volunteer joins for three years, and if he should be fickle, or get fed up, and quit during the first year, he forfeits \$60. That is offering freedom with one hand and pricing it with the other. A second year quitter pays \$40, and a third year ditto gets off (with luck) for \$20. In the fourth year, Heaven knows what they'll get, unless it is cerebro-spinal prionitis or some thing at first sight (though we'll explain it lower down) that looks like a deterrent. We fear some will say: Freedom in the hand is worth an administrative commandant in the bush.

That the authorities in their amiable, underheaded way, have really and truly tried to make this proposition attractive (as the *China Mail* advised) is sufficiently apparent. The Governor may make regulations, but those regulations can be rescinded by a Legislative Council vote. (Don't overlook the Official Majority in estimating the value of that concession). The Governor can call them out for actual military service in national emergency, but "nothing in this Ordinance shall render any officer or volunteer liable to serve or proceed on duty with out his consent, beyond the limits of the Colony." Moreover, when on such actual service they are to have army pay and allowances, and be under regular army regulations, so far as the same may be by the Governor in Council be deemed applicable to the volunteer corps. In Malaya a judge had to settle that, and his settled it against the commandant. Here the Governor decides. The Governor will fix the amount of relief for wives and families abandoned in consequence of such service; likewise pensions and gratuities.

With no national FOR CARPET CRIBS, volunteering is SOLDIERLY, not counted as "actual military service," but discipline must be maintained, and is provided for by two pages of provisions intitled Part III Discipline. In our vulgar way we boil them down to this simple formula: The commandant may sack a man (who must still forfeit that \$60, \$40, or \$20) but the man can appeal to the Governor. A volunteer can be arrested for disobedience or misbehaviour. Even on active service the volunteer is not subject to the death penalty (unless inflicted by the enemy, of course) and any court martial sentence must be approved by the Governor. But (as we read in the G.O.C. the Force with which the volunteers may be acting can, under section 177 of the Army Act, override that. Defence Corps men need not take the oath, but are bound by it. Previous ordinances are to be repealed. There will be a Scottish company, and a reserve company for the staffs over 45. We go to the reserves if we go at all, and we expect to be promoted right away to the fountain pen battery or the Gas Company. There are several pages of appendices which we haven't troubled to read; but we notice that the maximum camp attendance for efficiency is three days, not necessarily consecutive. That is a great concession to local prejudice.

Don't imagine we are "crabbing" the volunteer scheme. We are not. If you don't volunteer, you ask for conscription, which we all hate. The Malayan Government will soon have to resist its extraordinary compulsion act, which is against imperial policy and public opinion. Our Government has made volunteering easier and less irksome than it used to be, and we hope for a good response. Even that \$60 and \$40 forfeit—we spoke of, regarding it at first sight as an unnecessary deterrent to poor men, has something to be said for it. Somebody must pay for the uniform which is wasted when a quitter quits, and it shouldn't be the taxpayer.

When a King or a REPORTER. Governor attends a football match. It is always noted that he "showed considerable interest in the proceedings." They never tell us what else they think he went for. When the two teams by playing keenly prove to the reporter's satisfaction that they are "evidently out to win," they are sure to do one of two things. Very often they do both. They play "like Trojans," and the game becomes a veritable battle royal? What is a battle royal? Give it up! We'll tell you. It is a phrase derived from cockfighting times, and means that when (say) eight cocks have beaten eight others, the winning birds are pitted against each other, four against four, and these again, two against two, until there

emerges at last one triumphant survivor. Thus a football match cannot be a veritable battle royal, though it can be a lively contest. In shooting at goal the left winger precipitates the sphere," but we regard that as an exaggeration.

The "nine points of the law" you heard spoken of, but not explained, are usually understood to mean the nine requisites for successful litigation, namely, a good deal of money, a good stock of patience, a good case, a good lawyer, good counsel, good witnesses, a good jury, a good judge, and good luck.

The Monophagous Union Club had their monthly banquet last evening, seven partaking. The onion decorations were much admired. Several new statements regarding the natural history of the onion were submitted for verification, and a reference in a ballad by Villon ("pas ne savoit oignons peler") was noted down. There were no initiations.

Two days ago we had a note about a foreign pseudo-religious organization which, though holding much undeveloped estate in Kowloon, and being practically a land speculating firm, is not registered or subject to government supervision as such businesses ought to be. This note has fetched from a legal reader a dark suggestion. He says the *China Mail* should refer to the application of the statutes of mortmain. These were various laws passed to safeguard Crown rights in the case of lands held by corporations in perpetuity or inalienable tenure; and if our local Government has been neglecting such rights, we pass the suggestion on that it should look into this matter, before further disclosures are made.

There are two of these wealthy CORPORATIONS, and we are not sure which (if either) has been raising the rents on its tenants. The French Foreign Mission Society has enormous holdings, and has as its local business head the Rev. Fr. Robert, who has friends who have friends in the Government. He has just joined another Board of Directors. The Mission Etrangers must have a local income far exceeding that of the Twelve Disciples, and we never heard of Jesus joining an Estate Company. These reflections are not irrelevant. The wealth of this society, and his business associates and friends, give the Rev. Father Robert more "pull" than he is entitled to. We want to stimulate our new Governor's curiosity in this matter of mortmain, and then watch things move. *E par si nuovo.*

The other foreign society to which our attention is called is the Spanish PROCURATION, one of their tenants (Mr. Frost) informed a *China Mail* reporter that they are good landlords, who let their old tenants more or less alone. It seems they leased much property to Chinese who sublet and took their profit from increased rents. The corporation took back its property, but has again raised the rents. They "own" a lot of undeveloped land on the Kowloon side which they are supposed to be holding for a rise, as it includes desirable sites. This is being enquired into. We cannot permanently allow a foreign corporation trading in the name of religion to "hold us up" in this way. They take considerably more money out of the Colony than they spend here, and they take it in these (from a Gospel point of view) questionable ways. Christ would, we reverently assume, employ His scourge again here. Perhaps we are the scourge. Who knows?

A big green motorcar PRIVILEGE? is allowed to stand outside Jardine's office. In view of prosecutions of humbler car owners for obstructing traffic, we invite the police to take a look at this. If they consider it doesn't obstruct, no harm done. If otherwise—well, people are ringing the *China Mail* up and saying things, and that interrupts our meditations.

"THE TENTS OF THE ARABS."

INFORMATION REGARDING THE BOOKING.

Advance Booking opens to-morrow at 9 a.m. for the performance to be given at the Theatre Royal by our University Students on February 13, 14 and 15.

The plays to be presented are Lord Dunsany's "The Tents of the Arabs" and "The Gods of the Mountain." Those holding vouchers are advised to exchange the same for numbered seats early to-morrow morning in order to avoid disappointment. The General Booking opens on Monday 22nd February at 9 a.m.

CHAMBERLAIN'S TABLETS.

These Tablets are intended especially for disorders of the stomach, liver, and bowels. If you are troubled with heartburn, indigestion, or constipation they will do you good. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

SPECIAL CABLE.

NEWS FROM MALAYA.

[CHINA MAIL SPECIAL.]

SINGAPORE, Jan. 28.

It is estimated that the present controlled price of rice is costing the Straits Settlements government three million dollars a month.

Governor Guillemard is expected to arrive on Tuesday.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

To-day's dollar is worth 5s. 4½d.

The Benevolent Society meets at the City Hall to-morrow at 12.30 p.m.

The annual prize distribution of Salingpung School takes place to-morrow at 11 a.m.

No communicable disease in to-day's return. How nice that word "nil" looks sometimes.

The annual general meeting of St. Andrew's Church will be held to-morrow, in the Church Hall at 6 p.m.

The Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong hold their annual Ball in the City Hall to-morrow, at 9 p.m.

The Chaplain and Mrs. G. R. Lindsay will be "at home" to the members of St. Andrew's Church, to-morrow, in the Church Hall.

Consignees of cargo by the s.s. "West Conch" are reminded that goods will be examined to-morrow at 10 a.m. and must be cleared by January 31 or be subject to rent.

"The Gods of the Mountain" and "The Tents of the Arabs" will be produced by the Hongkong University Union Students in most up-to-date settings and costumes on February 13, 14 and 15, for which advance tickets can now be secured from the University Registrar or Moutrie's. These advance tickets give holders the privilege of reserving seats on January 30, two days ahead of the ordinary booking, which opens on February 2 at 9 a.m. at Moutrie's. The novelty of these productions having aroused considerable interest, we advise those wishing to become acquainted with Dunsany's works to avail themselves of this facility early.

MANCHESTER WEEKLY MARKET REPORT.

Messrs. James F. Hutton & Co., Ltd., Manchester, report on Dec. 17. In the early part of the week Cotton prices steadily declined at New York, but at the close a rapid recovery has taken place. At Liverpool values have practically been maintained, which is no doubt to be attributed to the further weakness of sterling exchange. The settlement of the coal strike in the United States caused a very temporary rise in New York prices but was more than offset by the fall in the value of the pound sterling and also by a generally bearish view of the Bureau crop figures published during the week. These gave a crop of 11,030,000 Bales, which is larger than was generally expected, and on the issue of the report a very sharp break ensued. The recovery which has now taken place appears to be due to proposed legislation dealing with the financing of the United States export business. In the yarn and cloth sections there is no new feature of importance to report. Yarns are dearer, in spite of slightly easier quotations for futures, and even though business has not been on such an extensive scale as for recent weeks. The cloth market is also somewhat quieter so far as new business is concerned but enquiry still shows little sign of falling off. In all cases where producers can yet give a reasonably early delivery, they find no difficulty in disposing of their output. Prices continue to harden and it daily becomes more difficult for buyers to conclude new orders as spinners and manufacturers show less disposition to accept them. The general opinion of producers is certainly that trading has been done sufficiently far ahead, and buyers also are not wanting, who think that the present high values and distant shipment times should occasion more caution. On the other hand, it would seem that there is little fear of overtrading as yet as the bareness of manufactured goods in all markets, caused by the War, can hardly be made good for a very considerable time to come; especially in view of the fact that the output in Lancashire has been so materially decreased and also that the Continental manufacturing centres are not yet turning out anything like their normal production. Pending a much greater supply, it would seem that values may soar to an unhealthy level and create a most unhealthy trading situation unless buyers act with considerable restraint.

Spent your Evenings in a "WALLA WALLA" Launch.

ARMED CHINESE.

A DANGEROUS POLICE JOB.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning the two armed Chinese who were arrested by the Police on the ground floor of No. 174 Praya East, on Jan. 25, were charged as follows:—No. 1 (1) attempting to shoot Sergt. McFall with intent to prevent lawful arrest; and (2) unlawful possession of a revolver and 21 rounds of ammunition. No. 2 was charged with the possession of a revolver and 5 rounds of ammunition, without permission.

Both men pleaded "not guilty." The Chinese Sergeant interpreter attached to No. 2 Police Station said that on the morning of January 26, he read and explained the charges to the accused.

After cautioning them, No. 1 said with regard to the first charge: "I did not draw the revolver." Replying to the second charge he said: "A man named Chan gave me the revolver and ammunition to keep. I don't know where Chan is now."

The second defendant said: "The revolver was given to me by my elder brother who has since gone to another port."

Witness took down the statements and then read them out to the prisoners and they signed them.

Sergt. Cockle said at 6.15 p.m. on Jan. 25, he with Sergt. McFall, a number of Chinese detectives and three uniformed Chinese constables, went to the address named. At first he went to the opium factory to take cover and thence he went to No. 174 Praya East, four doors away from Chee Sing Lane which lies between Observation Place (Tin Lok Lane) and Bowring canal. Witness went there to execute a search warrant. P.C. C248 was the first to enter. Witness followed behind two other Chinese constables.

On entering, C248 went straight to the rear of the ground floor. The Police were all armed. There were three children, sitting outside a cubicle occupied by the licensee of the opium divan. There was a counter on the right as one entered the premises, and this was used by the divan keeper. A woman and the three children were behind the counter. The cubicle was on the same side of the floor next to the counter. The rest of the premises was an open space. The Police passed the cubicle and went to the back of the premises. The back section was not shut off from the front section by any door. There was a back door which opened into Chee Sing Lane. There was also a door at the back of the premises which opened to a cook house which occupies the whole width of the premises before the back door. On the right of the back of the premises before one came to the door of the cook house, witness saw four men lying on 2 beds smoking opium. Sergt. McFall was with witness. The first defendant was the man lying nearest to witness as witness entered. He was lying on his right side with his head to the West and his feet to the East. The second defendant was lying opposite the first defendant on the same bed. He was on his left side. Both were in a position so that they were facing witness as he entered. They were both dressed as his Worship saw them in Court (in long coats). Beyond the prisoners two other men lay on another bed. Witness looked at all four men, and then with the aid of C248 and C293 he pounced on the second defendant, taking him by surprise. Witness had his revolver in his hand right from the moment he entered the building. All the other Police also had their revolvers in their hands. At the same time as No. 2 was seized, Sergt. McFall and C270 seized No. 1. No. 2 struggled and it took witness and three Chinese Constables to get the handcuffs on him. Not having his truncheon with him, witness had to use his fists. About the time they had overpowered No. 2 and were putting the handcuffs on him, Sergt. McFall called out to witness that No. 1 had a firearm. Witness turned to look and saw No. 1 struggling with McFall and his party. Witness left his man as he was already overpowered and went to McFall's assistance. Witness grabbed No. 1's right wrist; at the same time dealing him a blow in the face. Sergt. McFall then handed witness the seven chambered 22 revolver (produced) half opened. Witness took it, closed it and put it in his left hand lower coat pocket. No. 1 was then handcuffed. When No. 1 was removed from the bed, two cartridges (produced) were found on the spot where he had lain. Witness saw McFall pick up the two cartridges. These fitted the seven chambered revolver. From the floor opposite the bed, witness saw McFall pick up three more similar cartridges. All are live rounds. In the meantime witness had not yet inspected the revolver which he had put in his pocket. A Chinese detective then searched No. 2, and witness saw him take from under No. 2's long coat, the five chambered 38 revolver (produced). When witness received it, it was fully loaded in all chambers with live rounds.

Witness put this also in his pocket. At the station, in the presence of Inspector Kent, witness extracted the cartridges. After the two pri-

OBITUARY.

MISS L. J. HAYNES.

With sincere sympathy we record the death of Miss Lillian Jane Haynes, which took place at 10.30 p.m. last night.

Miss Haynes, who was employed as a stenographer in one of the local firms, was taken ill last Thursday with influenza and despite every care and attention, developed pneumonia which was the cause of her death. She was the daughter of Mrs. Haynes, Matron of the King Edward Hotel, and the late Mr. Charles Haynes, who was the founder of the Hongkong Hotel and its manager, afterwards at a Canton Hotel, and later still manager of the King Edward Hotel. Mrs. Haynes has held the position of Matron since he died. Her daughter whose untimely death we now report, was only eighteen years of age, and was very popular. Our sympathy will be shared by the very many friends of the bereaved family. The funeral passes the Monument this evening at 5 p.m.

It is sad to relate also that Miss Dolly Haynes, sister of the deceased, is at present seriously ill with influenza.

DOCKYARD WHIST DRIVE.

A whist drive was successfully held at the Dockyard Recreation Club last evening.

The following were the winners of the ladies' prizes:—1st Mrs. Overden, 2nd Mrs. Tang, 3rd Mrs. A. Matthews. Hidden number, Mrs. Crocker. The gentlemen's prizes were won by the following:—1st Mr. Edwards, 2nd Mr. Home, 3rd Mr. Morris, 4th George Messrs. Dodson and Tyerman tied for the hidden number prize.

soners had been secured, witness called in the guard who were outside in Chee Sing Lane. The Guard consisted of two Indians two Chinese and P.C. Reid. The Indians were armed with carbines. The Indians took charge of one prisoner each and removed them to the station. Witness examined No. 1's revolver and found two live cartridges (produced) in it. If the revolver had been fired, it would have taken two pulls to fire the first cartridge and three more pulls of the trigger to fire the other. Witness then extracted the five cartridges (produced) from No. 2's revolver. When one of the prisoners was searched at the station, in the inside pocket of a white jacket which he wore under his long coat, were found 14 rounds of live 32 (produced). That same night charges were read to the prisoners. On the following day the second charge was made against No. 1 and read to him.

By His Worship—Witness seized these men because he had received information that they were wanted by the Canton Authorities and also that they had taken part in an armed robbery at No. 126 Des Voeux Road, West. The Chief reason why witness wanted them was because he was informed they had firearms in their possession.

Sergt. McFall said that at 6.15 p.m., on the 25th inst., he went with Sergt. Cockle and a number of Chinese detectives and constables to No. 174 Praya East to execute an arms warrant. When they entered the premises, they went straight to the back of the ground floor, passing a cubicle as they went. In a large open space at the back, he saw four men lying on two beds smoking opium. The two defendants laid on the bed nearest to them as they entered. Immediately on entering witness noticed the first defendant put his right hand under his long coat and fumble with an inside pocket. Witness and a Chinese constable pounced on him. As witness grabbed the first defendant, he saw he had a revolver in his right hand. Witness grabbed the revolver and as he did so, it broke in the middle. Witness then shouted to Sergt. Cockle that the first defendant had a revolver and Sergt. Cockle and a Chinese detective came to witness's assistance. Sergt. Cockle struck the first defendant in the face, and witness wrenched the revolver from his hand and handed it to Sergeant Cockle. The first defendant's hands were then handcuffed behind his back. Witness then searched the bed and found two cartridges. On the floor near the bed, he found three more cartridges. He picked them up, and together with the two he had found on the bed, he handed them to Sergt. Cockle, who was in charge of the raid. After the raid, P.C. Reid and some Indian and Chinese constables were called in and took charge of the prisoners, removing them to the station.

By His Worship: The first defendant struggled very hard. It took about five minutes to overpower him. Witness did not see the other prisoner until after he had been handcuffed, and could not say how long it took to overpower him. At the station witness saw the defendants searched and on No. 1 were found 14 more rounds of ammunition, whilst on No. 2 was found a five-chambered revolver fully loaded in every chamber. P.C. C248 was then called and was giving evidence as we went to press. The case was eventually remanded until Saturday morning.

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BOMBAY & COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via S'pore.

SIAM MARU Saturday 31st January.

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COTTON DEAL.

GREAT LANCASTHIRE
BUSINESS SOLD.

A sensation was caused throughout the Lancashire cotton trade by the report on "Change that negotiations had been completed for the sale to a London firm of the business of Horrocks, Crewdon, & Co., Ltd., one of the biggest and best-known cotton spinning and weaving concerns in the world.

On "Change in Manchester five millions sterling was mentioned as the price paid, but in Preston six, seven, and even eight millions were given as the figures. On the known value of the spindleage and looms at the present time the smaller figure may turn out to be nearer the mark. It was reported in Preston that the Becham Trust were the buyers, but the names of nearly all the big London financiers have been mentioned.

Inquiries by representatives of the Daily News at the Manchester headquarters of the firm and at their Preston and Bolton mills failed to secure official confirmation of the report, which, however, receives the widest credence in the trade. Leading officials of the firm at Manchester when asked if the statement was correct replied, "We must decline to say anything." At the Preston works the answer was, "All that we can say is that the report is premature."

The history of the firm is one of the many romances of the great industry. It dates back to 1783, when John Horrocks, son of the owner of a small quarry at Edgeworth near Bolton, began to spin with handframes in the corner of his father's office.

SHIPS FOR THE PACIFIC.

The San Francisco Chronicle says: Returning from his service as director of operations for the Shipping Board and preparing to resume his duties with the Pacific Mail and other large corporations, J. H. Rosseter brings encouraging news as to the prospect of getting ships for the Pacific some day. He expects that we shall get twelve of the nineteen 14,000-ton liners now building, of which three are expected to be ready for service in about six months. That seems a good while, but time flies quickly.

It is highly desirable, however, that we keep a watchman about the yards, as our good friend and fellow citizens of the Eastern ports are not above stealing ships if not carefully guarded. The Southern ports seem to have got theirs already.

It will help if we can know just what we are to get at the earliest date possible and know it officially by formal and irrevocable action. On some routes that should be occupied it will require time to arrange for cargoes outward and inward and time should be given to prepare for the new business, which cannot be done without certain knowledge in advance.

For the moment the supply of the industrial nations of Europe with coal seems to be the most pressing shipping problem. If the continent of Europe is to get coal from us instead of from England it will require, according to Mr. Rosseter, about eight ships to do the work formerly done by one ship. That means that European industry must bear the cost of operating eight times as many ships as it formerly had to support. It will be found a great handicap in competition, and the more so because there seems not the slightest chance of getting return cargoes for many of them. Even now there is no end of vacant space on ships returning to this country from Europe.

The Pacific is a much bigger ocean than the Atlantic and is bordered by countries capable of developing a very large traffic both ways. The twelve ships which have been halfway promised to us will be hardly a beginning.

OVERCOMING INFLUENZA.

How After-Effects are Dispelled.

The most serious difficulty that confronts who fall victims of influenza is the problem of ridding their systems of the after-effects of the disease. Even in those cases where the attack is light, the after-effects are obstinate and severe. Normally bright and cheerful people become depressed and melancholy, their hair falls out, food causes distress and sleep is broken and unrestful. They develop "nerves" and sudden noises startle them.

The blood is the body's most dependable weapon in the fight against disease, and when the enemy is as violent as influenza the blood generally becomes spent and impure.

No time should be lost in strengthening the system and at this time a reliable blood-builder, such as Dr. Williams' pink pills, is the best remedy for regaining health. Dr. Williams' pink pills contain the necessary elements that go towards increasing and enriching the blood supply, and while they are doing this the starved nerves are fed and tanned up by the new blood. At the same time the tonic properties of these pills strengthen the stomach, and make digestion easy.

If you are suffering from the after-effects of influenza, or are in weak health owing to any other cause, take Dr. Williams' pink pills for a few days. They are obtainable from druggists everywhere, or post free, one bottle for \$1.00, six for \$5.00, from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 60, South Broadway, New York.

THE CHINA MAIL EXTRA.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1920.

TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

OUR POPULAR PRINCE.

HIS "DOWN UNDER" TOUR.

LONDON, Jan. 26.

The Australian Luncheon Club of London entertained the Prince of Wales. Sir Andrew Fisher said the visit of the Prince would have a greater effect on the most distant parts of the empire than anything he had yet done. He would receive the heartiest welcome in Australia, where the visit would be emblem of the fact that the empire was impregnable and that its strength would be used in the ways of justice.

Mr. Mackenzie on behalf of New Zealand told the Prince of the warmth of the welcome awaiting him there.

Responding, H.R.H. was received with prolonged cheering. He said he was looking forward with intense interest to his next voyage and the wonderful things he was going to see in Australia and New Zealand; but apart from that he wanted to see the peoples of those two dominions. He had been closely associated with the Australian corps and the New Zealand division during the past five years. He first saw them in Egypt after their Gallipoli exploits. He next saw them in France on the Somme and a few months ago he saw them in Belgium. Therefore it was impossible for him in any way to be a stranger when he got to Australia and New Zealand. (Applause). He was particularly looking forward to seeing as many returned Australian and New Zealand soldiers as he could. He could never forget they had always described him as one of themselves by their description of him as a "digger." (Laughter and Applause).

Sir T. Mackenzie suggested that the time had come for the initiation of some great movement to link up various associations to provide a meeting place for overseas representatives in London. (cheers).

Before calling on the Prince of Wales to reply, the chairman remarked that H.R.H. was only following in the footsteps of the King who had visited the dominion to open the commonwealth parliament.

H.R.H. on rising to reply was greeted with the Australian "coo-ee." This was a compliment he very much appreciated and of which he felt very proud. "I know your soldiers, and through them I feel I know the Australians and New Zealanders." Proceeding, he cordially supported Sir Thomas Mackenzie's suggestion of a club in London for Dominioners. He concluded by alluding to the inference of Commissioners Fisher and Mackenzie that his visit would do good, adding "I can assure you it is going to do me an enormous amount of good." (loud cheers).

Col. Amery in proposing Mr. Fisher's health eulogised the latter's services. Then, addressing the Prince, Col. Amery said: "You will be at home in a sense. You will meet old comrades and old 'diggers,' and I believe you will come away from those great dominions as I did from Canada, infected with the same confident spirit, and with the same national enthusiasm which they feel. You came from Canada a Canadian. I believe you will come back an Australian and New Zealander as well." (cheers) Wherever the Union Jack was flown, there those who worthy represented it were at home in the hearts of everybody. (cheers)

VISCOUNT BRYCE ON AMERICA AND EUROPE.

LONDON, January 27.

Viscount Bryce contributes an article to an Anglo-American supplement of the *Manchester Guardian*, discussing the question whether America realises the condition of present day Europe. He makes allowances for the embarrassments which beset the peace conference for discordant views, for the atmosphere of revengeful passion, for incessant Press interferences, and for the complexity of the problems, but he contends that whatever allowances must be made, the conference failed to solve the problems presented to it. He considers that there are elements of stability in the settlement and that new causes of strife have been superadded to existing ones. New irreducibles are being created. Indemnities and reparations are excessive, especially as regards Austria. He eloquently describes the appalling material condition of Europe, and maintains that its mental condition is no less alarming. Britain is only beginning to realise how her own welfare is involved while the American people are not yet awakened to the facts of the position. Viscount Bryce adds, "the truth is the world has now become for good or ill one community, wherein if any member suffers all suffer." He emphasises the apparent aloofness of America as due to want of knowledge and not want of sympathy. The picture of Europe as seen in Britain is veiled from Americans by the mists of the Atlantic. He points out that it took America many months to realise the causes of the war, and is not surprised that the postwar condition of Europe is not immediately realised, although American idealism and sympathy could not be doubted.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(Continued from Page 1.)

The Colonial Secretary then moved:—That Standing Order No. 11 be amended as follows:—

In sub-section (a) by the omission of all the words after "Chairman" and the substitution of the following words "The Treasurer, the Director of Public Works, and the Unofficial Members of the Council."

In sub-section (c) by the omission of all the words after "Chairman" and the substitution of the words "the Treasurer, and the Unofficial Members of the Council."

The Attorney-General seconded.

Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock said that as he would now become a member of the Public Works Committee he would like to say a few words about the Committee. At present it met at very infrequent intervals and mostly at the suggestion of the Government, but he did not think that was a satisfactory state of affairs at all. He suggested that the Committee should meet regularly, say six times a year. Then ten days or a fortnight before the meeting the Chairman should circulate to the members an agenda so that they could give notice to the Director of Public Works of matters they wished to discuss. This would enable members of the Committee to keep a grasp on municipal developments in the Colony. If the Committee met haphazard it was not enabled to carry out the functions of a Municipal Committee or Council. He could not expect his Excellency to give him an answer at the moment but

he trusted the suggestion would receive careful consideration.

His Excellency replied that he agreed if they had a Committee it was just as well that it should meet and do some work. He gathered that the difficulty in the past was that members did not take any real interest in it and hon. members would remember he expressed surprise that the committee did not go more fully into the question of public works expense. He deprecated the suggestion that the committee should meet at stated intervals as at one time they would not have enough work and at another too much and it would have to be postponed. He thought it would be more convenient if members communicated with the chairman beforehand and meetings could be arranged.

The motion was carried. The Colonial Secretary moved:—That Standing Order No. 12 be amended as follows:—

In line 1, by the omission of the words "either" and "or the Public Works Committee."

In line 3 by the omission of the words "on either of such Committees" and the substitution of the words "the Committee."

In line 5 by the substitution of the word "the" for the word "such."

The Attorney-General seconded and the motion was carried.

The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., moved:—That, with a view to giving facilities for commercial expansion, a Committee of the Legislative Council be appointed, consisting of His Excellency the General Officer Commanding and two Official and three Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council, for the purpose of considering and

reporting to this Council, upon the resumption by the Hongkong Government of the Military Establishments on the Queen's Road and the terms and conditions of such resumption.

The Hon. Mr. Pollock said he thought it would be admitted by those acquainted with the Colony that there was very limited opportunities for office and business extension, and it would be desirable if they could arrive at such arrangements that the military establishment on Queen's Road should be moved to some distant spot in order to give room for commercial and trade expansion. He thought that if a committee, such as he suggested were appointed that it would be a very apt committee. His main reason for bringing forward the motion was that it was obvious that unless a committee of this sort was appointed they would have interminable and quadrilateral correspondence going on between the home authorities the War Office, the local Military authorities the Government and the unofficial members. He thought there would be no question that there are other sites which could be found for the military establishment. As they were probably aware there was a terrible shortage of office accommodation in the Colony which must result in the future in firms having to go down to the west end of the city which has been considered more or less the resort of Chinese offices and establishments. He thought the Colony had the right to ask the consideration of this matter from the military authorities as it would be fresh in the minds of most of the military contribution which were made by the Colony in money, clothes, etc., that the Colony played a very worthy part in the war. Mr. Pollock then referred to the paper which was laid on the table on April 23, 1914, which was intended to be a very convincing answer to the War Office of the claims urged in the Council by the unofficial members that the military contribution had been somewhat excessive. In that paper (No. 5, 1914) there appeared a despatch, dated December 31, 1913, from the War Office with reference to the cost of the garrison here in 1912-1913, and it appeared that the War Office had every intention of making the bill as heavy as possible. The cost of garrisoning the Colony during 1912-1913 was £614,000 and the Colony's contribution in respect thereto was £143,000 which made it appear that the Colony was paying less than a quarter of the cost of the upkeep of the garrison but turning to the figures for 1920 it would be seen that they were giving for military contribution a sum of two and three quarter million dollars, therefore they would be paying the full cost of the garrison in 1920. He thought those facts should be taken into account by the military authorities in considering any plea which the representatives of the Colony may make for the removal of the military establishment on Queen's Road to some remote spot which would not interfere with the economic expansion of the Colony. He would ask the Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell to second.

The Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell seconded.

His Excellency said he had listened with pleasure to the remarks of the Hon. member and he fully agreed that the matter was of considerable importance. He was not sure he agreed with the other remarks that what he suggested as regards the committee would be the most satisfactory method of getting some action taken although he fully appreciated the remarks as to voluminous correspondence which he might say in his experience he had reason to remember and in this case he thought there would be five corners to deal with. He was afraid, however, that there was a fatal obstacle to the Hon. member's motion because he thought it would be obvious that his gallant and Honourable friend could not, in view of his position, take part in such a committee, without the permission of the War Office.

Major-General Ventris: That is so. Proceeding, His Excellency said he quite agreed that if they were to get anything done it would be necessary for them to come to some agreement here and then notify the authorities and ask them to fall in with the proposition. Whether it would be as well to proceed with the matter solely in connection with Hongkong he thought the matter might be given further consideration. Why should they not also include the Kowloon military establishments which the Hon. member had referred to and the matter of the mule stables on Nathan Road. He would remind the Hon. member, however, that to do this would cost a considerable sum of money. They could not tell the military authorities to remove without providing some place for them to remove to. They would not only have to provide a site but also to supply buildings. With regard to the figures given as to the cost of the garrison he did not think they would be justified in thinking the cost would be less than in 1913. He must say that he would feel somewhat surprised if the cost of the garrison was

not materially increased. He could not agree to the forming of the committee suggested. He thought the best thing would be for the matter to be dealt with by the General Officer Commanding, himself and any other gentleman he might think fit to ask assistance from.

Hon. Mr. Pollock asked for a division since he thought if such were done it would impress the Home authorities far more if they knew the minds of the unofficial members.

The motion on going to a division was lost. Mr. John Johnstone being the only unofficial member voting with the Government.

The Hon. Mr. Pollock then moved:—That the various Housing Schemes for different sections of the community in various districts of the Colony be now referred by the Government to the Public Works Committee of the Legislative Council, with power to that Committee to make suggestions as to the carrying out and financing of such schemes and as to the improvement of the methods of communication with the outlying districts which are sought to be developed by such schemes.

Speaking to the motion Hon. Mr. Pollock said he had heard from time to time that the Government proposed to undertake various schemes with reference to housing, especially in Kowloon which had reached a very acute stage. With regard to Kowloon in particular what had happened to the Government proposals? They would like to know exactly how the scheme stood and whether anything was likely to be done. Mr. Pollock then referred to the various sites that would be suitable for building, emphasising that the site on Nathan Road occupied by mules should be used for house accommodation. He also drew attention of the available space which existed on the road between the Rifle range and the railway. He hoped the Government would be able to make some statement with regard to this piece of land. There were many other suitable sites for building which he thought should be utilised. It was well known that the Government was going to finance a company for the erection of flats and assistance of some sort to erect new buildings in Kowloon. With regard to the question of the erection of cheap houses the land question was very important. It was necessary that land should be available at moderate terms and only a moderate sum should be charged for Crown rent. If there was to be development there must also be means of communication and roads made that would carry some sort of communication service. The important thing was the question of financial assistance. He also thought the Government should take up the question of introducing laws relating to building societies.

In seconding, the Hon. Mr. E. V. D. Parr said the matter was one of the utmost urgency. The development of this Colony was a most important matter and it would be agreed that it could not be settled without the assistance of the Government. He had heard a rumour that intimation had been sent home that married men were advised not to bring their wives and families out because there were no houses for them to live in. If it had been necessary to send such instructions then that must remain a discredit to the Colony.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary in reply said the housing question was one which for the last eighteen months he had taken a keen interest in. The subject divided itself into two parts and it became acute after the report of Lieut. Olitsky was received. It became clear from his report that overcrowding in the city of Victoria might have serious results were an epidemic to break out and it was essential that steps should be taken. It was a large and difficult subject. Dealing with the housing schemes in Kowloon the speaker said that the profits made by certain shipping companies which were to have gone towards the cost of carrying out of these schemes could not at present be used although preparations had been made for proceeding with the work and plans had been drawn up. The people who had made these profits considered that the money should go into their own pockets and therefore until the local Courts decided the matter the scheme would have to remain in abeyance. In this connection also the University had been deprived of a large sum. The vacant land beyond Austin Road and Jordan Road would be built on if possible but there were certain reasons why the land beyond Jordan Road should not be built on. With regard to the land between the rifle range and the railway, proposals were made a few months ago and an agreement existed between the Colonial Government and the Military authorities that the land should be taken over by the Colonial Government. The cost would be rather over \$50,000 and the sum of

(Continued on back.)

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(Continued from an Extra.)

\$100,000 had been provided in the estimates this year for building houses on that land.

Possibly forty houses will be built there, of different sizes, and would, he hoped, tend to relieve the situation in Kowloon. With regard to Chatham Road there was a large area of land not built upon. That had been the subject of correspondence between the Government and the owners, who were one of the religious societies of Hongkong. They expressed their great desire to build if they could see any adequate return for their money. With regard to the advances to Humphreys Building Estate, as regards Kowloon, with the sums lent by the Government it was proposed to build now eighteen flats and it had been arranged that rent to be charged for these flats shall not be more than eight per cent on the capital expenditure including the cost of erection and the original cost of the land.

The Government could not impose restrictions unless they had a hand in the matter by advancing money. There would be no great demand for loans except for genuine buildings yielding a moderate return. If they kept to the auction principle now in force it was obvious prices would run up. With regard to developments at Samshui and the communications, the consideration of wide roads was being proceeded with. The making of existing roads suitable would be a very expensive undertaking. There was a sum of \$150,000 in the estimates for improving roads in Kowloon but that was only a fraction of the amount which would be required.

Commenting on housing development the Colonial Secretary mentioned that eight houses were ready or the Ridge at Happy Valley and 12 were about to be erected at the foot. There were some large houses to be erected on the Peak, while large areas in the Peak district would be available. If the King's Park scheme went through there would be 40 new houses. If the hon. member could tell them what the housing problem really meant and how many houses were required it would be very useful. He suggested that the resolution should be amended to read "..... with power to that Committee to make suggestions relating thereto and also the question of the improvement of the means of communications of the outlying districts as may appear suitable." If the purposes of the resolution would accept that the Government would support it.

Mr. Pollock intimated his acceptance.

In the course of his remarks on the subject His Excellency said the hon. member had raised the question of the limitation of rents. That was a very difficult question and had been talked in various ways. He found great difficulty in getting any clear knowledge on the subject. The difficulty was that if they limited rents to what they might call reasonable they would check building which was even more desirable. "You will never get cheap houses in this Colony and can never expect it. The thing is to get enough houses. They might find that the shortage of houses had been exaggerated, because one or two people without houses could make as much noise as twenty when trying to influence public opinion. On the question of the Government issuing small loans the His Excellency remarked that it would have to be obtained at a high rate of interest. If they put any restrictions on rents people would not build but would put their money in other projects where there was no worry. He thought it was a matter the Public Works Committee should go into. He did not want a report but wanted the benefit of their advice on any subject it occurred.

The motion was carried.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to modify certain provisions of the Treaty of Peace Order, 1919, for the purpose of adapting the provisions of the Order to the circumstances of the Colony of Hongkong.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded and the Bill was read.

The "objects and reasons" state:—The object of this bill is to adapt the Treaty of Peace Order, 1919, to the circumstances of this Colony. The Order applies to the whole of His Majesty's Dominions and Protectorates, except the self governing dominions and India, and Article 3 of the Order contemplates that the Legislatures of the Colonies and Protectorates to which the Order applies shall legislate for the purpose of adapting the Order to those Colonies and Protectorates. The Order will come into operation when the Treaty of Peace comes into force. The Order was published in the London Gazette of the 24th October, 1919, and in the Hongkong Gazette of the 9th January, 1920.

2. The modifications created by the bill are all matters of detail such as the substitution of dollar amounts for sterling, references to Hongkong Ordinances instead of to English Acts, and the substitution of the Governor for the Board of Trade as the authority for certain administrative functions.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to make provision with regard to the execution of instruments under seal by the agents of certain foreign corporations.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded and the Bill was read.

The "objects and reasons" state:—English law requires that where an agent is to execute an instrument under seal his authority must also be under seal. Certain foreign corporations, e.g., French and Belgian corporations, have no common seal and accordingly they cannot comply with this rule. The rule is purely technical now, and this Bill proposes to negative it for foreign corporations incorporated in countries where such an authority need not be under seal. It is made general in order to avoid the necessity for enquiry and proof in each case. It is made retrospective mainly for the security of leasehold titles in the Colony. The point has only recently been taken here by purchasers.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to provide for the establishment of a Volunteer Force.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded and the Bill was read.

Objects and Reasons.

1. The object of this Ordinance is to provide for the establishment of a new Volunteer Force to take the place of the existing Volunteer Corps and Volunteer Reserve.

2. The bill is founded on the existing Volunteer Ordinance, 1893, which was based on the English Volunteer Act, 1863, 26 and 27 Vict. c. 65.

3. The details of the constitution of the corps which it is proposed to form under this Ordinance are given in the Regulations contained in the First Schedule to the bill.

4. Enlistment in the corps will be entirely voluntary, and there will be no automatic transfer to it from the existing volunteer bodies. Application forms will be circulated and will be available at the present Volunteer Headquarters, and applicants for admission to the new volunteer corps will be given opportunity of stating on such forms the name which they would prefer for the new corps. The forms when filled in should be sent to the present Volunteer Headquarters.

5. In clause 2 of the bill the term "Administrative Commandant" appears instead of the old term "Commanding Officer of the Corps." The reason for this is a technical military one. It is merely to enable the officers who shall be in executive command of the artillery, engineer, and machine gun companies to communicate on questions of training direct with the C.R.A., C.R.E., and General Officer Commanding, respectively. If the senior officer of the new volunteer corps were styled Commanding Officer such communications would have to pass through him, which might cause unnecessary delay, and which would occasion unnecessary work. It will be seen from the regulations in the First Schedule that the Administrative Commandant may be either a volunteer officer or a regular officer, and that if he is a volunteer officer the Adjutant must be a regular officer. The only other alteration in clause 2 of the bill is the omission of the unnecessary definition of the term "actual military service" and the insertion of a definition of the term "General Officer Commanding the Troops."

6. The only alteration of any importance in clause 5 is the insertion of a provision that every volunteer is to engage to serve for three years. This will not prevent his resigning from the corps, but unless he resigns for some good reason he will have to pay a sum of money, not exceeding \$60, which will be fixed according to the length of his service in the corps. For example, if he resigns in the second year, he will have to pay the sum of \$40. No sum will be payable on resignation under this provision if the member resigning is leaving the Colony forthwith for a period of at least one year, or if he resigns for any other cause which the Administrative Commandant may consider reasonable and bona fide.

7. Clause 11 (1) differs in form though not in substance from section 11 of the existing Volunteer Ordinance. Sub-clause (2) provides that any regulations so made may be rescinded or amended by the Legislative Council. Sub-clause (3) merely provides that the first regulations under the Ordinance shall be those contained in the First Schedule to the bill.

8. The wording of clause 12 has been slightly altered so as to bring out one object for the formation of a volunteer force, i.e., the desirability of having a volunteer force which may be called out in aid of the police and the regular forces in case of serious local disturbance.

9. Clause 18 has been slightly altered but it is substantially the same as section 18 of the existing Ordinance.

10. A similar remark applies to clause 19, the added words being merely intended to avoid any difficulties of legal procedure.

11. In clause 26 a sub-clause has been added in order to obviate the necessity of swearing in in the new corps any persons who were on the 23rd December, 1919, members of the Hongkong Defence Corps.

12. All references to the Coast Defence Volunteers have been omitted.

13. The last clause of the bill provides for the repeal of the Volunteer

Ordinance, 1893, and the Volunteer Reserve Ordinance, 1910. The repeal of these Ordinances is not to take effect until a date to be proclaimed by the Governor. The object of this is to keep alive an organisation which will take care of the property of the two existing volunteer bodies and which can be used for the purpose of receiving applications for admission to the new volunteer corps, and of making such arrangements as may be necessary before the new corps can be properly constituted. One important duty of the old organisation will be to place the members of the new corps in such a position as to enable them to choose their officers and non-commissioned officers. Clause 28 also provides that upon the coming into effect of the repeal of the two existing Ordinances all property, rights, and powers vested in the Commanding Officer of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps and in the President of the Hongkong Volunteer Reserve shall vest in the Administrative Commandant of the new volunteer corps. This will transfer the property of the two existing bodies to the head of the new body.

14. With regard to regulations 5 (1) and 6 (1) in the First Schedule, the intention is that on the first formation of the corps the members of each company are to have the opportunity of selecting the persons whom they desire to see appointed as officers and non-commissioned officers of that company, and that they are to have a similar opportunity when any vacancy subsequently occurs in the total number of officers or non-commissioned officers. These two regulations do not apply to promotions, and once a man reaches non-commissioned rank, or commissioned rank, as the case may be, his promotion will depend on other considerations, but upon the first formation of the corps the members of each company will be given an opportunity of saying what person they desire to see appointed as commanding officer of that company. Regulation 5 (1) does not apply to the appointment of the Administrative Commandant or his staff.

Prior to announcing the adjournment, His Excellency referred to the appointment of Sir Frederick Lugard as Privy Councillor and suggested that the Clerk of the Council should send a message of congratulation to him.

Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, on behalf of Unofficial members, endorsed this.

FINANCE.

The following minutes recommended by H.E. the Governor came before the Finance Committee:—

\$200 in aid of the vote Crown Solicitor's Office, Other Charges, Extra Legal Expenses.

\$2,000 in aid of the vote Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Buildings, Latrines and Urinals.

DEPARTURES.

The s.s. YANGTSEKIANG, (Capt. Bro. n) sailed for Swatow at 6 a.m. to-day with 200 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. SOSHU MARU, (Capt. Harada) sailed for Takao via Swatow and Amoy at 9 a.m. to-day with 950 tons general cargo.

The s.s. BANRI MARU, (Capt. T. Tsuji) sailed for Moji at 7 a.m. to-day with 600 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. COLOMBIA, (Capt. Dockstader) sailed for San Francisco via Shanghai at 12 noon to-day with through general cargo.

The s.s. SUN TAK, (Capt. Carneiro) sailed for Saigon at 11.40 p.m. to-day with 350 tons of general cargo.

ARRIVALS.

January 29.

The s.s. HOPSANG, Brit., 1,750 tons, from Shanghai, Capt. J. H. Ferguson, J. M. & Co. Wharf.

The s.s. MADRAS, Brit., 4,337 tons, from Moji, Capt. J. S. Jones, M. M. & Co. At.

The s.s. GLENARIFFE, Brit., 4,125 tons, from London, Capt. H. J. Henderson, J. M. & Co. R. Wharf.

The s.s. BOKCANTON, Chl., 5,660 tons, from Hoiboh, Capt. J. E. Livingston, Yee Bing Co., Wharf.

CLEARANCES.

January 29.

The s.s. WING SANG, (Brit.), cleared to-day and will sail for Shanghai via Swatow at 8 a.m. tomorrow.

The s.s. WEST CONOB, (Amer.), cleared to-day and will sail for San Francisco via Saigon at 12 noon.

The s.s. PROSPER, (Norw.), cleared to-day and will sail for Saigon at 2 p.m.

The s.s. F O SHING, (Brit.), cleared to-day and will sail for Shanghai at 6 p.m.

The s.s. SHUN SHING, (Chi.), cleared to-day and will sail for Kwong Chow via Macao at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

DEPARTURES.

The s.s. YANGTSEKIANG, (Chi.), Capt. Brown, Agents Yee Cheong Lee, left for Swatow.

The s.s. SOSHU MARU, (Jap.), Capt. Harada, Agents Osaka, Shosen, Kaisha, left for Takao via Swatow and Amoy to-day.

The s.s. COLOMBIA, (Amer.), Capt. Dockstader, Agents Pacific Mail S.S. Co. left for San Francisco via Shanghai to-day.

The s.s. SUN TAK, (Port.), Capt. Carneiro, Chap. Cheong left for Saigon to-day.

The s.s. RUNNING, (Brit.), Capt. W. Benson, Butterfield & Swire left for Shanghai to-day.

SEA MYSTERIES.

SAILORS' TALKS OF THE SUPERNATURAL.

ABANDONED SHIPS.

Mr. Clive Holland, a much-travelled author, writes to suggest a new theory for the disappearance of ships' crews on the high seas. He says:—I have been much interested in the account published in the Daily Chronicle of the fore and aft schooner "Marion G. Douglas," abandoned off Brighton Island, Sicily. You drew an interesting parallel with the case of the Marie Celeste of nearly half a century ago.

Many explanations and theories were advanced at the time. I have been told, in explanation of the curious circumstances attending the abandonment of the "Marie Celeste," is it not possible, in view of the evidence which—according to many highly scientific and reputable people—recent years have produced, to attribute the abandonment in both instances to supernatural circumstances?

THE "SHAPE" IN THE RIGGING.

I remember an old sea captain telling me, some years ago, of a strange adventure in the Indian Ocean. He was a God-fearing Scotsman. One day the first mate came to him and said that on the previous night, during his watch, he had seen a fearsome shape climbing down the rigging. It had emitted a phosphorescent glow, and was part man, part beast. The captain said, "I simply laughed at Jackson, and told him he had taken too much to drink. But the man was very serious, and told me that the helmsman, and one of the watch, had also seen the 'shape.'"

Next night the captain was aroused about 1.30 a.m. by hurried footsteps on deck. The mate, his face distorted with fear, appeared in the doorway of the captain's cabin, and entreated the latter to come on deck. This he did.

There was the "shape," baboon-like, yet human, lit up by phosphorescent rays, an idships. "It was impossible to deny," the captain told me, "the presence of this terrific and terrifying 'shape,' which exerted such an influence on him that he felt his hair rising on his head. 'Summoning all my courage,' he said, 'I advanced to meet the thing. I walked straight through it, feeling at the same instant a chill such as I have never felt either before or since.'"

THREAT TO LEAVE THE SHIP.

Next morning the crew, headed by the mate, came aft to say that if the "shape" appeared that night they would provision the boats and abandon the ship. The men (sailors are almost always superstitious) were evidently terror-stricken. At his wits' end, the captain at first tried to reason with them. All to no purpose. They were quite determined. Then he bethought him of the power of exorcism. He promised to "lay the fearsome shape." And if he did not succeed then, he would consider seriously the men's proposals.

He watched until an hour before dawn, when the "shape" made its appearance as before. He went forward in the name of the Holy Ghost, and, making the sign of the Cross (at which the "shape" trembled), he bade it be gone and never return to trouble the ship again.

It vanished from his sight, with uplifted hairy arms, as though to ward off a blow, while he spoke. Next night it did not reappear. Nor was it ever again seen on the ship.

Is it not possible that some such supernatural and inexplicable phenomena may have led to the abandonment of both the "Marie Celeste" and the "Marion G. Douglas"? What do our spiritualist friends say to this suggestion?

It seems quite possible that the manifestations in the cases of both these vessels were even more terrible, leading to the crew, mad with fear, leaping overboard to escape.

TWO FATALITIES.

The dead body of a 4-year-old Chinese girl, the daughter of a boatmaster, has been sent to the Public Mortuary. She was drowned by accidentally falling overboard at Aberdeen yesterday afternoon.

The body of another Chinese girl, aged 14, has been sent to the Kowloon Mortuary. She was accidentally killed by being struck by a piece of rock during blasting operations at Taiwan yesterday.

The Chinese living at No. 4 Praya West (Kennedy Town) and his concubine who were remanded by Mr. Smith last week on a charge of harbouring a married woman for an immoral purpose, were again before his Worship this morning. The man was sentenced to 3 months' hard labour and the woman to a fine of \$50, or in default, three weeks' hard labour.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning, a Chinese was charged with the theft of 20 catties of rice from a shop at No. 159, Des Voeux Road West at 9 a.m. The defendant was alleged to have gone into the shop and picked up a sack containing the rice. He then ran away. He was chased by the shopkeeper and a constable, and he pladed not guilty.

Sentence of one month's hard labour was passed.

ENGLISH PATENT LEATHER

DANCING PUMPS and SHOES

in all sizes and fittings.

Owing to these arriving late in the season we are offering the whole lot at a special price for one week only.

\$9.00 per pair.

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Men's Wear Specialists.

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KOWLOON RENTS

THE LAST STRAW.

It would appear that the action on the part of Humphreys' Estate Company in raising the rents of Kowloon, is likely to prove more a blessing in disguise to Kowloon tenants, than anything else, for the Company by their action, have provided "the last straw that breaks the camel's back." It would serve no useful purpose to go back and recite the various instances of unwarranted rent raising that have been going on in Kowloon for months past. Bitter complaints have been heard practically every week by those who frequent the ferries, and other places where Kowloonites foregather and all have been duly recorded; in fact, it was the rent profiteering which inspired the formation of the Kowloon Residents' Association. The matter has now reached a point where it needs no further instance of repetition of the offence, for offence against the general public it is. If any Kowloon resident is asked for information, there is nothing but bitter complaint in reply. The *China Mail*, fair as always, made an attempt to get at the other side of the question; if there is another side, and called upon the Hongkong Office of Humphreys' Estate Company and asked for an interview. The gentleman in charge (we don't know whether it was the Secretary or the Manager, because our reporter did not even see him) declined to give any information, therefore the natural inference is that no information justifying an increase on present rents or making tenants pay taxes, which amounts to the same thing, can be produced.

"One of the oldest residents in Kowloon," interviewed by a *China Mail* reporter, this morning, stated: "I think the landlords are taking advantage of the great scarcity of houses in Kowloon. The European population on the peninsula has been increasing considerably during the last six or seven years and no month goes by without some five or six families moving over from Hongkong. This refers both to British and Portuguese subjects, and more so, in the case of the latter. St. Joseph's College has had to open a branch in Kowloon, and St. Mary's School is taxed to its utmost to receive any more pupils. My opinion is that the Government should bring some pressure to bear on the landlords, at least to compel them to refrain from increasing rents for the next year or so, to enable such schemes as the Government may have in hand to materialise. There is certainly no justification for the increases that have been going on. I blame the Government largely for the present position—for making the Peak districts of Hongkong so attractive to the wealthier classes by building new roads and such like work. If there had been more done in the way of inducing the wealthier people to go

COMMERCIAL AVIATION.

INTERVIEW WITH SIR ARTHUR BROWN.

Sir Arthur Brown, the famous aviator, accorded a representative of the *China Mail* an interview yesterday in the course of which he made some interesting remarks on commercial aviation, particularly with regard to Hongkong.

Sir Arthur said: The application of aviation to commercial uses must be approached with caution. This latest addition to the world's means of transport reduces the time necessary for travelling between cities or countries and on that account is apt to arouse enthusiasms which may be misplaced. The cost of transport through the air over short distances is higher than the cost of transport by land or by water. Only in cases where the time saved is of sufficient monetary value to repay the increased cost is an aerial service justifiable. This applies of course only to communications between places having existing rail or steamship facilities. Where the facilities do not exist then the aeroplane provides means of communication in many cases at less capital cost than the provision of railways. An island like Hongkong does not appear to provide suitable sites for aerodromes but there are ample facilities for the harboring of flying boats. The flying boat is the logical vehicle for communication between Hongkong, Shanghai, the Philippines and other ports within a radius of a thousand miles. Provision could also be made here for the Vickers mooring tower for the large type of rigid airships, which will have the long distance "freighters" and passenger carriers of the near future. The aeroplane is limited in its radius of action by the weight of fuel which it must carry and it does not at present appear to be economically economical for distances much greater than 1,000 miles. Where that distance is exceeded in a non-stop flight the rigid dirigible should be employed. These airships can at the present time do a voyage of 5,000 miles without refuelling and construction is contemplated of airships which will be capable of doing 10,000 miles without the necessity for taking on board fresh supplies of fuel. Such machines will be capable of carrying fifty tons of freight or passengers and by their use no two points on the world's surface would be more than four and a half days travelling apart. The old difficulty of landing these huge airships whereby hundreds of men had to hang on the guide ropes in order to bring them safely to their moorings has been obviated by the Vickers mooring tower. This is a steel tower which can be erected over a hotel, and is provided with lifts to its summit. Provision is made at the top of the tower for receiving the nose of the airship and when once moored to the tower it acts like a weather vane, always facing the wind and swinging round with every change. By means of this tower a crew of six men can land the largest airship in existence.

In a country such as China, Sir Arthur continued, where there are few railways or roads the aeroplane is the thing to develop it. "Questioned as to aerial passenger services he mentioned that it had been estimated that passengers could be carried from New York to London at £48 a head and letters at 3d. per ounce. The cost of a trip from London to Paris was £15.15. This showed that the same rule applied to an aeroplane service as to a steamship line—the longer the distance the less the cost per mile.

When asked whether he thought a passenger service across the Atlantic would be of real commercial value or just a service for sensation seekers, Sir Arthur expressed the opinion that many business men would make the trip on account of the short time involved.

With regard to machines he mentioned the Vickers Viking, a machine capable of carrying four passengers, and so constructed as to permit its landing either on land or sea. The size of land machines was bound to be restricted on account of the landing room required, but there was no such handicap with the flying boat. There were many privately owned aeroplanes in England, he remarked, generally small machines for solo flying. In time, he smilingly predicted, they would be flying with "flapper carriers fixed on the tail."

"WALLA WALLA" boats are new and fast. Get them at Blake Pier.

LORD DUNSANY.

It must have been about 1902 or 1903 when we first find mention of Dunsany in connection with the literary movement in Ireland. George Moore remarks in speaking of A.E.: "He was offered some hundreds of pounds by Lord Dunsany to found a review, but he had not time to edit it, and proposed John Galsworthy. 'Contrary John' wanted to see life steadily, and to see it whole; and Yeats came along with a sneer, and said: 'I hear, Lord Dunsany, that you are going to supply groundsel for A.E.'s canaries.' The sneer brought the project to naught." And so the review was not founded. Nevertheless this must have been Dunsany's initial entrance as a paragon of art. His first published book was issued in 1905, but his first play did not appear until 1908, when "The Glittering Gate" was put on at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin. "King Argimenes and the Unknown Warrior" followed in February of 1911 at the Abbey, and the next June "The Gods of the Mountain" went on at the Haymarket Theatre, London. Then came "The Golden Doom" at the Haymarket in November of 1912, after which it was played successfully through a number of Russian cities. The productions of both "The Gods of the Mountain" and "The Golden Doom" were entirely successful, the first so much so that William A. Brady, the American producer, brought the production in fact from the Haymarket, except as to cast and put it on in Buffalo, New York. This was in the summer of 1912. The next production was that of "The Lost Silk Hat" by E. Iden Payne at Manchester, in August of 1913 during the repertory season there. In 1914 "The Glittering Gate" was put on at the Neighbourhood Playhouse, New York, to be followed by "A Night at an Inn" and "The Tems of the Arabs" in 1915, all at the same theatre. These two last plays have not as yet had an English production. Thus the season of 1910 was a splendid one for Dunsany in America, for at the same time that "The Tems of the Arabs" was put on at the Neighbourhood Playhouse, "The Gods of the Mountain," "King Argimenes and the Unknown Warrior" and "The Golden Doom" were staged by Stuart Walker in his Portmanteau Theatre, which may be said to be of New York, Tientsin and Shanghai, for it is a travelling theatre. The productions of the Dunsany plays were most beautifully done, however, and all New York was Dunsany mad on the instant. That is roughly the history of Dunsany's dramatic career. It covers only eight years, but surely those eight years have come to a most wonderful fruition.

THE PUBLIC-SPIRITED.

Instances of "English as she is writ" can be multiplied almost indefinitely. But the following touching appeal must really be given to the public:—

The First Public-Spirited School, Ningpo.

Jan. 20, 1920.

DEAR SIR,—Are you quite well now? I respect you for your great famousness.

I am sorry of these unlearned men and there are so many in Ningpo. Therefore I constitute a Ningpo first public-spirited school at Hanjuli in Ningpo. Only the shopmen, carpenter, blacksmiths and all other laborers should come and learn some of the common knowledges, now there are about Seventy Students in this school. But I am much troubled of money, because it is very few. Of course I know, you are always glad to help whichever; and also the heartiness of the education and all other public. Now I beg you and help me some.

One cannot help hoping that those with whom money is not "very few" will attain greater famousness by showing themselves as public spirited as the writer.—N.C.D.N.

STRAIGHT AT IT.

THERE is no use of our "beating around the bush." We might as well out with it at once. We want you to try Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the next time you have a cough or cold. There is no reason so far as we can see why you should not do so. This preparation by its remarkable cures has gained a world wide reputation, and people everywhere speak of it in the highest terms of praise. It is for sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

HONGKONG SCHOOLS' FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE WINS JUNIOR CUP.

There was a large gathering of people present on the Queen's College ground, Causeway Bay yesterday afternoon, to witness the re-play of the final in the second league of the Hongkong Schools' Football Association, between Queen's College and Wanchai School. It will be remembered that these two teams who have both been through the league unbeaten, tried conclusions in a previous match, and despite the fact that extra time was played, neither side could get advantage over the other, the match ending in a draw of one goal all.

H.E. Sir Reginald Stubbs, K.C.M.G., arrived soon after the match started. Wanchai lost the toss, and had to play against the sun. The match opened very fast with both ends being visited in quick succession. Wanchai's forward string combined better than Queen's and were for a time very dangerous, but Queen's defence was sound and Wanchai did not score. Play became more interesting and exciting as every minute went by, and soon it became evident that both sides were out to win the cup. Towards the close of the first half, Queen's had a good chance of opening the score when they were awarded a corner kick, but their right winger placed the ball a little too far out and the defenders cleared. The second moiety brought continuous rounds of applause from the spectators as the players of both sides kicked and tackled in excellent fashion. A little rough play followed and several players lost their temper and tackled with a little too much vigour to be good. Wanchai's right winger was so excited that in his attempt to check the progress of Queen's left winger, he fouled him when near goal. This proved to be fatal, and the free kick which followed brought Wanchai's downfall. Queen's left winger took the shot and kicked the ball right into the centre of the goal mouth. A dozen heads went up to meet the ball, and one of Queen's men headed it into the net. This proved to be the deciding goal of the match, for try as they did, Wanchai, despite the fact that they increased their roughness, subjected the Queen's players to some unpleasant tumbles. Nevertheless, Queen's stuck it out and managed to keep their citadel intact to the end of the match when they emerged the winners and this year's junior champions by one goal to nil.

At the conclusion, Mr. Tanner, Headmaster of Queen's College said that Mr. Ralphs was unavoidably absent, and had asked him to address the gathering in his stead. He told Mr. Ralphs that he was placed in an awkward position, as being Headmaster of Queen's College, he would naturally hope they would win, but was told to carry on. He was very glad Queen's did win. Perhaps had Wanchai won he would not have been so pleased, and would not be smiling as he was (laughter). However, he was convinced that Wanchai would not begrudge Queen's taking away the cup this year, seeing that they (Wanchai) had held it for three years in succession. Mr. Tanner then asked His Excellency to present the cup and silver medals to the players of the winning team.

Queen's Captain then called for three cheers for His Excellency, and they were lustily given. In thanking the boys, His Excellency said he was grateful for having been given the honour of presenting the cup and medals. He had enjoyed himself very well. He congratulated Queen's for winning the cup, but Wanchai was also to be congratulated for the hard struggle they had put. He thought it was an achievement for Wanchai to have won the cup three times.

BASKET BALL.

The following are the remaining fixtures of the Students' League, Jan. 22, Ying Wa College v. Queen's College. Jan. 30, University v. Ying Wa College. Feb. 2, Queen's College "A" v. Queen's College "B." Feb. 3, Queen's College "A" v. University. The above matches will be played on the Y.M.C.A. ground on Bridges Street at 4.30 p.m.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

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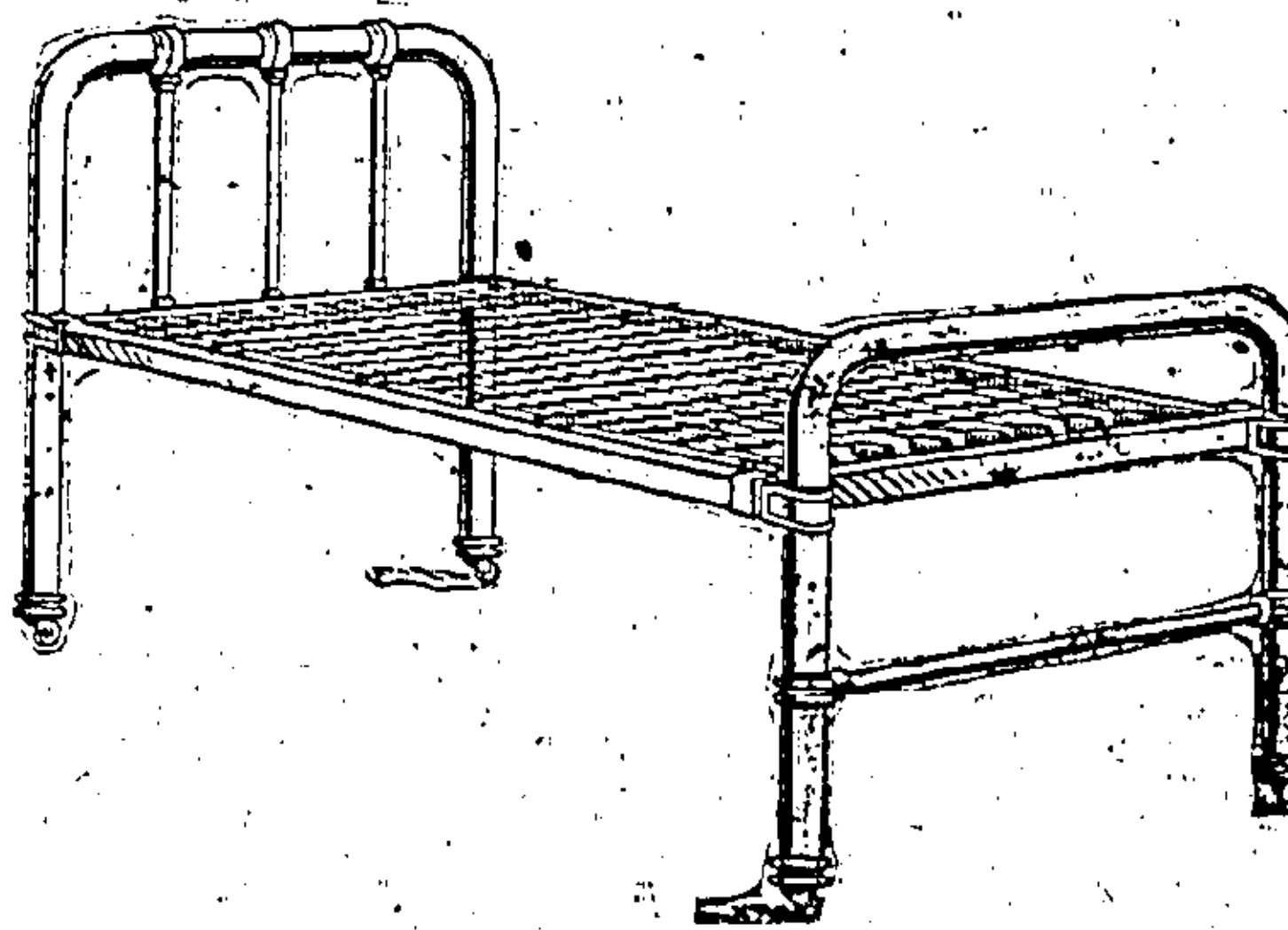
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SECOND WEEK OF WHITEAWAY'S GREAT SALE.

FURTHER BARGAINS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.



300, 3 part Bedsteads, exact to illustration. Size 64 by 3ft. The best and cheapest 3 part Bedstead on the market to-day for ordinary use.

Special Sale Prices \$13.50 each.

Coir Mattress for above. Made with best English ticking and stuffed real Maldivie Coir imported by us direct from India.

Special Sale Price \$6.75 each.

Coir Pillow. Special Price \$1.00.

Kapoc Pillow. Special Price \$2.00.

Hamstitched Cotton Sheets. Size 2 by 3 yards. Special Sale Price \$7.50 pair.

Blankets. White Wool. Size 56 by 72 inches. Special Price \$6.50 pair.

White Honey Comb Quilts from \$4.95 each.

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20, Des Voeux Road, Central, Hongkong.

Refreshing the Skin.

A most refreshing Health-plasmer and Toilet Soap, comforting and benefiting the skin, is daily enjoyed by use of this

"Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap"

—English made and delightful, for use, Toilet and Bath purposes. Delicately perfumed, reviving, softens. Sells at 1/6 per box. Lady C. Howard writes:

"I like the 'Albion and Sulphur Soap' very much. It is pleasant to use and whitens and softens the skin."

Lady C. Howard-Stamper writes:

"The 'Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap' is an extremely pleasant Soap, and I prefer it to any other I have ever tried. No artificial scent used."

Sold by Chemists, Grocers, Stores, &c. Why not try a box of this

"ALBION MILK AND SULPHUR SOAP."

BOYDS FIRE EXTINGUISHER

MUSTARD & CO.

SIMPLE TO CHARGE: SIMPLER TO OPERATE.

Tel. No. 1186.

SPORT IN PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons recently Mr. Hodge (L., Edinburgh, E.) asked the Leader of the House who was responsible for authorising the use of a committee-room in the House for a chess tournament, in which a professional player was to take part, during the discussion of an important land measure for Scotland, whether he was aware that on the last occasion on which Scottish business was discussed the proceedings were interrupted for a river pageant; and whether he was prepared to appeal to those who preferred a chess tournament to a discussion on Scottish affairs to refrain from voting on subjects of vital importance to Scotland on which they had not heard the arguments.

Mr. Bonar Law: I understand the use of the committee-room was authorised by the Sergeant-at-Arms at the request of a committee of members of the House. The answer to the second part of the question is in the affirmative. As to the third part, I will give the undertaking asked for so far as I personally am concerned—(laughter)—but it would not be reasonable in this case alone to ask members who have not heard the debate to refrain from voting.

Mr. Hodge: I do not want to be a spoilsport, but on a question of precedent, if a committee of members wanted a committee-room for a prize fight—(cries of "Hear, hear," and laughter)—while the House was sitting would permission be given?

Mr. Bonar Law: I do not think it is right to ask me to answer a hypothetical question, but if my hon. friend wishes to take part in a prize fight—(laughter)—and will make application in the usual way, I am sure it will be considered. (Laughter.)

CUTICURA HEALS
PIMPLES ON FACE

Chest and Arms. Irritated Awfully. Restless Nights.

"My face, chest, and arms were covered with small pimples that used to irritate awfully. They used to come to a head and discharge and I had restless nights. I could not keep my hands away from the pimples. Then I saw an advertisement for Cuticura Soap and Ointment, and I thought I would give it a trial. It was wonderful, as they ceased the pimples, and my skin is lovely and clear after three years of torment. I am healed." (Signed) Mrs. E. Murr, 37, James St., Sheerness-on-Sea, Eng.

Why not use these famous, super-creamy emollients for every-day toilet and nursery purposes and prevent these distressing skin troubles?

Soap to cleanse. Ointment to heal. British Depot: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Cannon Row, London. Sold everywhere.

CURE THAT COUGH.

WHEN you have a troublesome cough, it does not mean that you have consumption or that you are going to have it, but it does mean that your lungs are threatened, and it is just as well to be on the safe side and take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy before it is too late. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

HONGKONG STOCK
EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, 29th JANUARY, 1920.

OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS.

11 A.M.

Banking Exchange 5/4 T. T.
Hongkong Bank, — \$180 n.

MARKET INVESTMENTS.
Canton Ins. — \$390 b.
North China Ins. — \$180 n.
Union Ins. — \$180 n.
Yangtze Ins. — \$180 n.
Far Eastern — \$180 n.

FIRE INSURANCE.
China Fire Ins. — \$180 n.
Hongkong Fire Ins. — \$180 n.

SEAFARERS.
Douglas — \$59 s.
H.K. Steamboat — \$59 s.
Indo-China (Pref.) — \$59 s.
Do. (Def.) — \$59 s.
Shell Transport — \$59 s.
Star Lines — \$59 s.

RUBBER.
China Rubber — \$200 n.
Malayan Rubber — \$200 n.

MINE.
Kallan Mining Adm. — \$145 n.
Langkai — \$145 n.
Shanghai Loans — \$145 n.
S.H. Explorations — \$145 n.
Rams — \$145 n.
Tronoh Mines — \$145 n.
Ural Coalfields — \$145 n.

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, &c.
H. & E. Wharves — \$180 s.
H. & W. Docks — \$180 s.
Shal Docks — \$180 s.
New Engineering — \$180 s.

LAUREL, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.
Central Estates — \$109 n.
Hongkong Hotels — \$112 b.
Hongkong Lands — \$112 b.
Humphreys — \$112 b.
Rowland — \$112 b.
Land Reclamation — \$112 b.
West Point — \$112 b.

COTTON MILLS.
Two Cottons — \$465 b.
Kung Yik — \$465 b.
Leng Keng Mow — \$465 b.
Oriental — \$465 b.
Shanghai Cottons — \$465 b.
Yangtze — \$465 b.

MISCELLANEOUS.
Cements — \$6.80 s.
China-Borneo — \$117 b.
China Lights Old 87 & New 83 b.
China-Providents — \$117 b.
Dairy Farms — \$117 b.
H.K. Electric — \$117 b.
Macao 10. — \$117 b.

Hongkong Ropes — \$117 b.
H.K. Tramways — \$117 b.
Peak Tramways (Old) — \$117 b.
do. (New) — \$117 b.
Steam Laundries — \$117 b.
H.K. Steel Foundry — \$117 b.
Water-works — \$117 b.
Watsons — \$117 b.
Wm. Fowells — \$117 b.
Wiemann's — \$117 b.

TAIYO & CO.
(JAPANESE)
BOOTS AND SHOES
MADE TO ORDER.
No. 10, Wyndham St.

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN
AND MORTGAGE CO., LTD.
(Capital Paid up — \$1,250,000.)
Loans on Mortgage of Real Property, &c.
Loans received on Storage.
Advances made on Mercantile Bills.
Loans on the Security of Government Securities.
Loans on the Security of Shares and Bonds.
Loans on the Security of Real Estate.
(Basis and Particulars on application.)
To the Office of the
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.

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BANKS.

ASIA BANKING CORPORATION
HONGKONG.

Announces that the Italian Government Treasury
have appointed them Fiscal Agents in China
to offer

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT 5%
CONSOLIDATED LOAN

Subscriptions open until March 10th for these
bonds, issuing price Lire 87.50 plus interest.

HEAD OFFICE:
NEW YORK.

OTHER BRANCHES:

SHANGHAI HANKOW TIENTSIN
PEKING MANILA CANTON
CHANGSHA

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, January 29, 1920.

Bank, Wire — 5-4

On demand — 5-4

30 days sight — 5-4

4 months sight — 5-4

Documentary 4 months sight — 5-4

On demand — 1370

On New York — 882

On demand — 882

On Bombay — 882

On demand — 882

On Calcutta — 882

On demand — 882

On Singapore — 882

On demand — 882

On Manila — 197

On demand — 197

On Shanghai — 197

On demand — 197

On Hongkong — 197

On demand — 197

On Canton — 197

On demand — 197

On Hankow — 197

On demand — 197

On Tientsin — 197

On demand — 197

On Peking — 197

On demand — 197

On Changsha — 197

On demand — 197

On Shanghai — 197

On demand — 197

On Hongkong — 197

On demand — 197

On Canton — 197

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On demand — 197

On Tientsin — 197

On demand — 197

On Peking — 197

On demand — 197

On Changsha — 197

On demand — 197

On Shanghai — 197

On demand — 197

On Hongkong — 197

On demand — 197

THE INDUSTRIAL AND
COMMERCIAL BANK, LTD.

Head Office: 1 Des Voeux Road, Central.

Branches: Shanghai, Hankow, Canton, Tientsin, Peking, etc.

DOMESTIC & FOREIGN BANKING.
SERVICE PROMPT.

Current, Savings, and Fixed Deposits
Interest at Rates 2%, 4%, 5%,
respectively.

Current, Savings, and Fixed Deposits
Interest at Rates 2%, 4%, 5%,
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Interest at Rates 2%, 4%, 5%,
respectively.

Current, Savings, and Fixed Deposits
Interest at Rates 2%, 4%, 5%,
respectively.

Current, Savings, and Fixed Deposits
Interest at Rates 2%, 4

ENTERTAINMENTS

by Liverpool via Singapore Mar. 21.

10	20	7	20	2	the
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"WALLA WALLA" Launches at Blake Pier. Night and day scene.

[Illegible text]

VICTORIA THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT! 9.15 p.m. TO-NIGHT!

GLADYS HULETTE

IN

"MISS NOBODY"

MAX LINDER in

"MAX SHOULD WEAR BRACES"

MATINEE AT 5.15 P.M.

"THE BELOVED VAGABOND"

Booking at **ANDERSON'S.**

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

C. M. E. S. Co.'s *Nile* arrived at San Francisco on Jan. 30.

N. Y. K. a.s. *Shimpo Maru* (Calcutta Line) left Calcutta for this port on the 19th Jan. and is expected here on the 23rd January.

N. Y. K. a.s. *Tama Maru* (Bombay Line) left Singapore for this port on the 18th Jan. and is expected here on the 30th Jan.

P. & O. S. N. a.s. *Dixie* left Singapore for this port on the 28th instant at noon and is due here on the 3rd prox. at about 8 a.m.

N. Y. K. a.s. *Tokoro Maru* (Bombay Line) left Calcutta for this port on the 19th Jan. and is expected here on the 4th Feb.

The N. Y. K. a.s. *Shimpo Maru* (Calcutta Line) left Singapore for this port on the 23rd Jan. and is expected here on the 4th Feb.

The Ben Line a.s. *Benlomond* from Middlesex and London left Singapore for this port on 4th instant and may be expected to arrive here on or about 4th proximo.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s *Nile* left Singapore for this port on the 24th instant at 5 p.m. and is due here on the 6th proximo.

The N. Y. K. a.s. *Shimpo Maru* (Bombay Line) left Calcutta for this port direct on the 18th Jan. and is expected here on the 6th Feb.

The C.P.S. Co.'s *E.M.B. Express* of Calcutta left Ambover for Hongkong, Swatow, Canton, Shanghai, and Manila, on the 32nd Jan. and is due here on or about the 16th Feb.

Printed and Published for THE COMEERED by GEORGE WILLIAM
CROG BURGESS, Editor, No. 1, Wyndham Street, Monrovia.